

By way of contrast, in DeKoning et al. XOR engine 62 as shown in Figure 2 is connected to RPA memory controller 60. RPA memory controller 60 then, through PCI bus 28, is connected to host interface 16. As described in DeKoning et al. at column 4 beginning at line 45, "the XOR engine 62 primarily performs a bit-wise XOR operation on data stored in the intermediate parity buffer 64 with data received from the RPA memory controller 60 . . . The RPA memory 22 permits the intermediate storage of blocks of read data (i.e., data read from the disk array 33 which is sent to the host device 31) and blocks of write data (i.e., data received from the host device 31 which is written to the disk array 33). As a result, the RPA memory 22 provides a caching function wherein the disk array controller 10 may utilize read/write data stored in the RPA memory 22 instead of accessing one or more of the disk drives associated with the disk array 33."

Using the XOR engine of the present invention, the XOR engine receives data directly from the host network interface via a transceiver (65 shown in Figure 6) so that during a host write/data transfer, the XOR engine can calculate the parity by XORing the data bits from the host network interface. There is no memory controller 60 or equivalent element as required by DeKoning et al. The differences between the present invention and DeKoning et al. should be apparent with reference to Figure 2 wherein it is shown that XOR engine 62 is connected to RPA memory controller 60 on one side and buffer 64 on the other side with no connection to the host interface (other than through memory controller 60) or to the storage device interface (other than through memory controller 60). Clearly, memory controller 60 which, as described in DeKoning et al. at column 4, beginning at line 42, controls the flow of data between the system bus, the RPA memory and the intermediate parity buffer and the operation of the XOR engine 62. Thus, memory controller 60 is not a passive device between the XOR engine and the host network interface, but is a required element resulting in an entirely different architecture from that described and claimed by Applicant. While data from XOR 62 can flow to and from host interface 16 in DeKoning et al., the XOR engine 62 in DeKoning et al. is not coupled to the host interface as disclosed and claimed by Applicant due to the existence of the RPA memory controller between the XOR engine and the host network interface.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 as being anticipated by DeKoning et al. is requested.

Claims 2-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over DeKoning in view of Neufeld. The Examiner relies upon Neufeld for its teaching of first and second transceivers of the type set forth in Claim 2. Although Neufeld discloses transceivers 320 and 319 in Figure 9, there is no logic means as defined in Claim 2 which operates on data from the first transceiver as disclosed by Applicant as defined in Claim 2. Moreover, Neufeld does not provide the necessary teachings missing from DeKoning et al. relative to the coupling of the XOR engine to the host network interface as explained above.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims pending are patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102 and of Claims 2-7 under 35 U.S.C. is requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

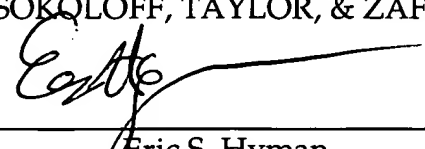
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Per 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) and in connection with the Office Action mailed on MONDAY, JULY 28, 2003, Applicant respectfully petitions Commissioner for a three (3) month extension of time, extending the period for response to WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2004. Attached is a check in the amount of \$950.00 to cover the petition filing fee for a 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3) large entity. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.


Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN

Dated: January 16, 2004

By: _____


Eric S. Hyman
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class Mail, With Sufficient Postage, In An Envelope Addressed To: Mail Stop Amendments, FEE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1340, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Linda Marie D'Elia January 16, 2004

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